



# Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center 2019 Annual Report



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## Mission Statement

Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center (ADC) strives to provide safe, efficient, and cost-effective mobilization and demobilization of emergency resources. Operational goals include:

- To promote efficient operations through interagency cooperation and standardized procedures.
- To be equally responsive to all the agencies that we serve.
- WE WILL:
  - Identify incident priorities according to Zone priority criteria regardless of agency.
  - Define the "closest" resource regardless of boundary or ownership and utilize as appropriate through cooperative agreements.
  - Recognize agency specific requirements, i.e. pre-suppression orders, special equipment requests, skills requests, etc.
  - Recognize sensitive, political, or special issues and follow through to minimize their impact on current operations.
  - Provide timely communications on information and decisions which affect the interagency community.
  - Give all agencies and dispatch centers equal consideration in filling resource requests.

## Summary

This report summarizes the 2019 fire season within the Pecos Zone (PEZ) and Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center (ADC) Initial Attack area.

ADC's initial attack area consists of federal, state, and private lands protected by the Lincoln National Forest Service, Pecos District BLM, Las Cruces District BLM, BIA Mescalero Agency, New Mexico State Forestry Capitan District, Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, San Andreas National Wildlife Refuge, White Sands National Monument, Chamizal National Memorial, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Big Bend National Park, and Amistad National Recreation Area.

The 2019 fire season ended with a total of 297 fires for 36,035.54 acres. Alamogordo Dispatch continued to be very busy assisting with a total of 452 WildCAD incidents. (These numbers reflect the incidents Alamogordo Dispatch were involved with and does not include all incidents NM State Forestry responded to.)

Due to activity, Alamogordo Dispatch began 7 day coverage on March 17, 2019 and ended on September 14, 2019. Expanded dispatch operated for a total of 16 days in support of the Pine Lodge Fire.

## Alamogordo Dispatch Center

Throughout the year, ADC staff participated in numerous activities and endeavors outside of the dispatch center.

Nicole continued her detail into 2019 with the Forest Service Washington Office – Fire and Aviation Management as part of the ROSS/IROC Integrated Project Team as an Information Specialist.

Tiffany Fralie was detailed as the Center Manager for Alamogordo Dispatch Center.

David Sosa completed a 120 day detail to the Southwest Coordination Center as Overhead Coordinator. In May 2019 David assisted with a Critical Incident Peer Support response to Arizona.

Luis Re assisted the Southwest Coordination Center with an assignment as a Support Dispatcher. Luis assisted with briefing the majority of incoming initial attack dispatchers and detailers during the 2019 fire season and provided consistent leadership to the IA floor.

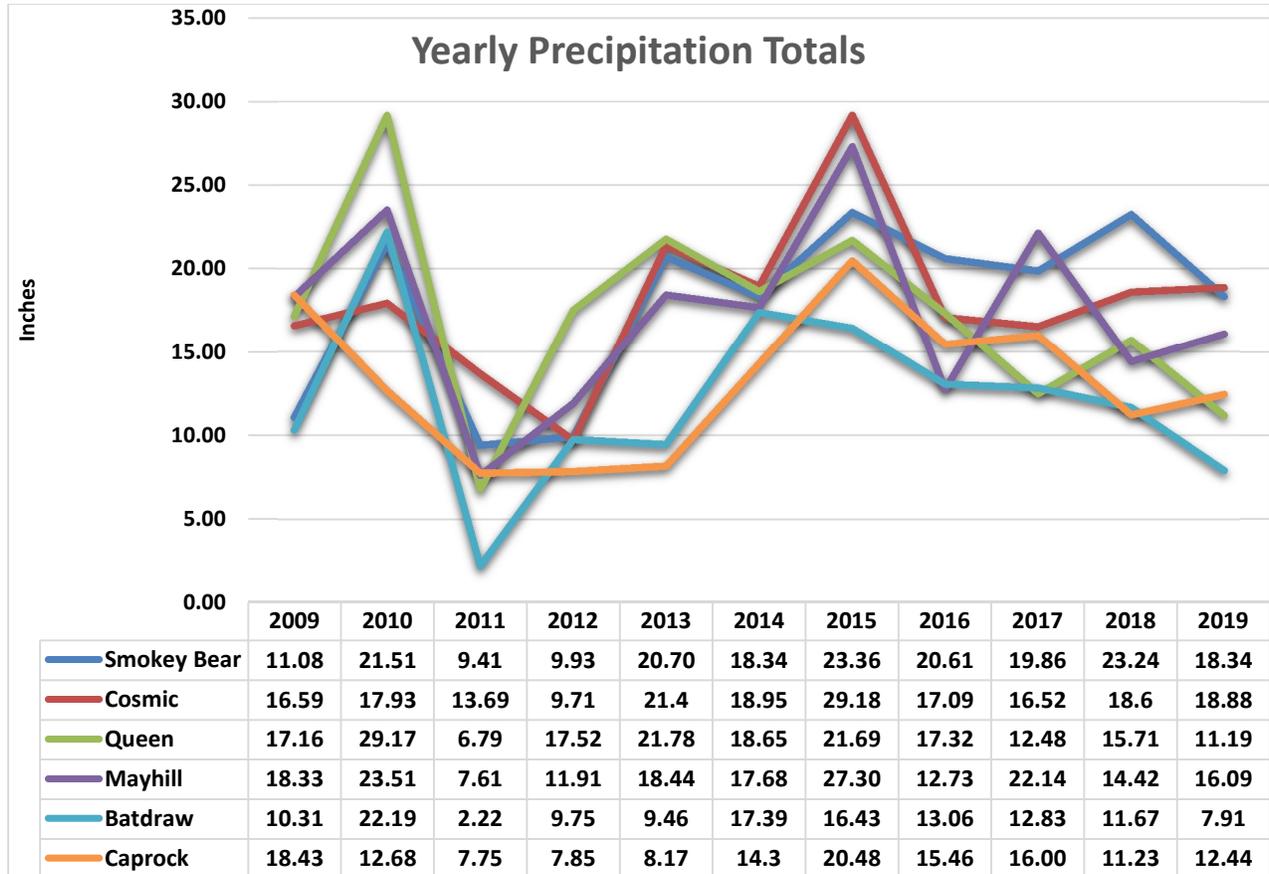
Eustace Gallerito was on the SWA Priority Trainee list as an Aircraft Dispatcher in 2019 and was able to complete his taskbook after an assignment to Arizona on the Woodbury Fire. Eustace also traveled to California as an Initial Attack Dispatcher. Eustace received emails and appreciation gifts after his assignments for his outstanding abilities and work ethic while on assignment. He also assisted Region 3 as an Incident Contract Project Inspector in April and May helping complete Pre-Season inspections for contracted resources.

Katie Eikanger was hired in March 2019 as one of ADC's Forest Service Initial Attack Dispatchers and she hit the ground running! She was on the SWA Priority Trainee list as an Initial Attack Dispatcher and traveled to Flagstaff Dispatch to help during the Type 1 Museum Fire. In October, Katie completed a fire assignment with FS Engine 611 to Tennessee and attended the Gettysburg Staff Ride. Katie has been nominated as a 2019 SWA Rookie Dispatcher of the Year!!!

In January 2020, we will be welcoming Jesse Vinson to the ADC team as an Initial Attack Dispatcher! Jesse comes to us from the Smokey Bear IHC. He completed an unofficial detail in dispatch during the 2019 Fire Season. ADC and the Zone are lucky to have him on the Initial Attack floor!

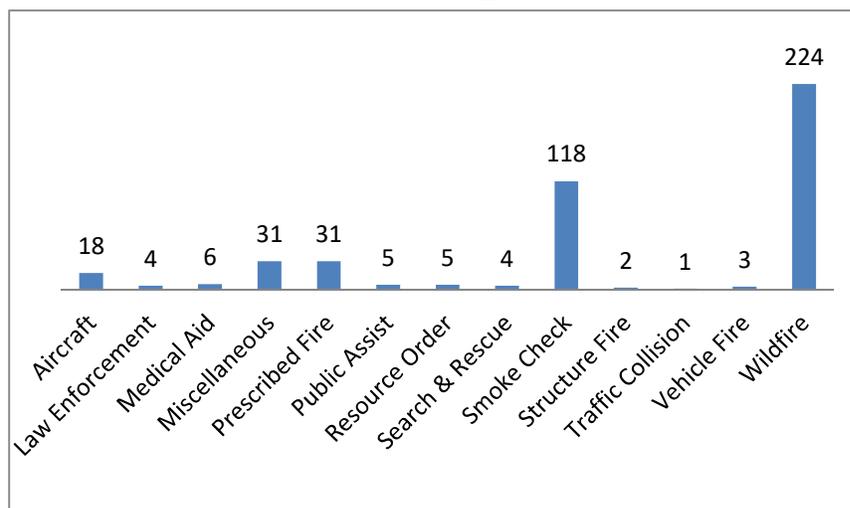
## Weather

Rain events began in July and continued into November with most zone RAWS stations showing less than average amounts of moisture for the year. Total yearly precipitation in inches for RAWS stations: Cosmic 18.88 Smokey Bear 18.34, Queen 11.19, Mayhill 16.09, Batdraw 7.91 and Caprock 12.44. These 6 RAWS stations totaled 84.85 inches of rain for 2019 compared to 94.87 inches in 2018.

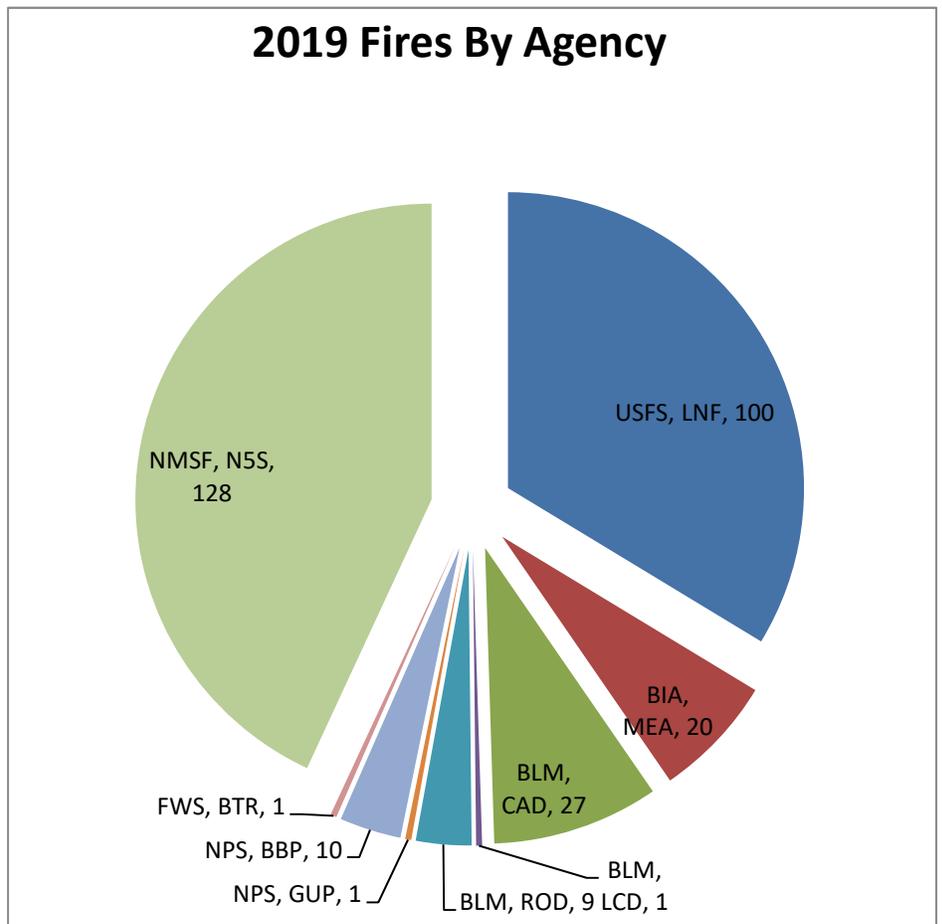


## Pecos Zone WildCAD Incidents

In 2019, Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center (ADC) handled 452 local incidents with 224 of those being Wildfires (1/1 thru 12/31). Aside from Wildfires, the second highest number of incidents were Smoke Checks.



2019	FIRES	ACRES
USFS –LNF Lightning	26	13,987
USFS – LNF Human	74	15,147.40
N5S Lightning	42	3,856.25
N5S Human	86	2,861.10
BLM Lightning	5	13.3
BLM Human	32	25.95
NPS Lightning	3	7.2
NPS Human	8	1,125.3
FWS Lightning	1	1.36
FWS Human	0	0
BIA Lightning	4	2.4
BIA Human	16	8.28



# Large Fires

## Lincoln National Forest

NAME	SIZE	START	TEAM	DATES ASSIGNED	DAYS
Pine Lodge	15,044	6/19	IMT -T3 – PEZ – ROBERTS	6/20 – 6/23	4
			IMT –T2 – SW – TEAM 5	6/22 – 7/03	12
			BUYING TEAM – DUTCHER	6/24 – 7/05	12



**Pine Lodge Fire**  
**Lincoln National Forest – Smokey Bear Ranger District**

## 10-Year Fire Summary

The tables below summarize the total number of fires and acres for the last 10 years for the land based agencies within the Pecos Zone.

USFS	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2010	34	320
2011	70	117,079
2012	32	40,574
2013	19	132
2014	28	109
2015	24	121
2016	35	802
2017	23	690.14
2018	57	12,942.67
<b>2019</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>29,134.40</b>

N5S	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2010	211	42,088
2011	532	620,273
2012	132	19,869
2013	64	721
2014	81	7,214
2015	125	2,457
2016	197	47,668
2017	120	9,283.87
2018	122	91,614.323
<b>2019</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>6,717.35</b>

BLM	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2010	75	2731
2011	130	75,991
2012	47	1,181
2013	20	81
2014	44	211
2015	58	2,341
2016	46	1,501
2017	29	478.625
2018	43	2,268.45
<b>2019</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39.25</b>

NPS	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2010	12	21,185
2011	6	32,713
2012	3	174
2013	4	27
2014	3	8
2015	8	92
2016	14	15,465
2017	10	1,236.86
2018	8	1,363.80
<b>2019</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,132.50</b>

BIA	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2010	16	3.5
2011	50	955
2012	39	32
2013	23	5
2014	30	56
2015	14	209
2016	33	909
2017	22	24.47
2018	32	1,316.25
<b>2019</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10.68</b>

FWS	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2010	1	1
2011	2	101
2012	0	0
2013	0	0
2014	3	24
2015	1	1
2016	3	13
2017	1	0.2
2018	2	19
<b>2019</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1.36</b>

## Prescribed Fire Accomplishments

The Lincoln National Forest treated 3,823 acres with management-ignited burns during 2019.

BIA treated 3,839 acres.

Pecos District BLM completed 2,270 acres of prescribed fire. Pecos District BLM also assisted Lincoln National Forest Sacramento District with Prescribed Fires.

Las Cruces District BLM treated 3,000 acres, Bitter Lakes FWS completed 193 acres and White Sands Missile Range treated 1,700 acres with the help of Socorro BLM and Alamogordo Dispatch Center.



**Fort Stanton RX – Roswell BLM**

## Multiple Objective Fires

### Lincoln National Forest

#### Smokey Bear Ranger District

Lone Mountain – May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 2256, lightning start 6 miles north of White Oaks, NM started at 1 acre and called out on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 3,631 acres.

Forest Service leadership decided early on to order in a Type 1 Fire Module and utilize an Unmanned Aerial Surveillance System (UAS) to help manage the fire. The use of the UAS was the first on the Lincoln National Forest and was used for mapping missions, photography/video products and aerial ignition.

#### Sacramento Ranger District

Middle – September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at 1720, lightning start 8 miles southeast of Mayhill, NM started at 0.1 acre and called out on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at 785 acres.

#### Guadalupe Ranger District

Rawhide – August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 2019, lightning start 5 miles northwest of Sitting Bull Falls started at 1 acre and called out on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10,050 acres.



**Rawhide Fire**  
Lincoln National Forest – Guadalupe Ranger District

## Crews

### Regular Agency Type 1 Crew Assignments

#### Smokey Bear IHC

The crew reported for duty on March 17<sup>th</sup> and went available nationally on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The crew spent 85 days assigned to incidents, in travel status or staging. Once available, Smokey Bear IHC performed on fire suppression assignments in New Mexico, and California completing three 14-day assignments. Smokey Bear IHC was unavailable as of September 11<sup>th</sup> and was disbanded on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### Sacramento IHC

The crew reported for duty on March 18<sup>th</sup> and spent a total of 106 days assigned to incidents, including travel. Once available, Sacramento IHC performed on fire suppression assignments in Arizona, Montana and New Mexico completing four 14-day assignments. Sacramento IHC was disbanded on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Regular Agency Type 2IA and Type 2 Crew Assignments

Mescalero BIA Type 2 and Type 2 IA crews responded to fire suppression assignments in Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado.

	Type 2IA/Type 2
AGENCY	BIA – Mescalero
DATE OF FIRST ASSIGNMENT	6/6
NUMBER OF FIRE ASSIGNMENTS*	5
OFF UNIT ASSIGNMENTS*	5
DAYS COMMITTED	57

Big Bend National Park Los Diablos Type 2 and Type 2 IA crew responded to fire suppression assignments in New Mexico and Idaho.

	Type 2IA/Type 2
AGENCY	NPS – Big Bend Los Diablos
DATE OF FIRST ASSIGNMENT	5/23
NUMBER OF FIRE ASSIGNMENTS*	2
OFF UNIT ASSIGNMENTS*	1
DAYS COMMITTED	21

## Pecos Zone Type 3 Team

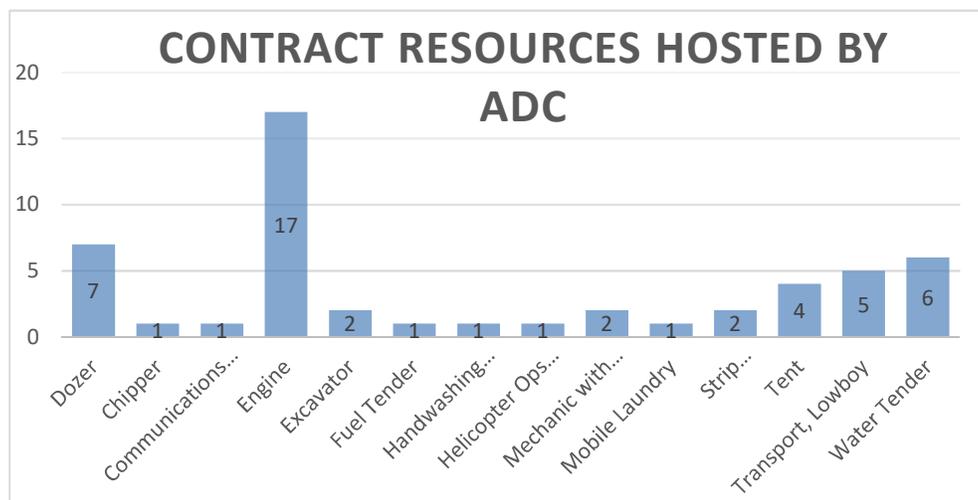
During the 2019 fire season, the Pecos Zone Type 3 Team was dispatched to 1 fire within the Zone. The team was initially dispatched to the Pine Lodge fire on the Lincoln National Forest.

## Logistical Activity

Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center hosts 483 overhead personnel representing the following agencies:

AGENCY	LNF	CAD	ROD	BTR	BDR	SNR	WHP	N5S	MEA
TOTAL # OF PERSONNEL	157	26	28	8	2	2	2	63	102
AGENCY	AMP	BBP	CHP	CCP	FDP	GUP	SWA	MAFW	
TOTAL # OF PERSONNEL	5	60	1	6	4	15	1	1	

ADC hosted a total of 51 Contract Resources in 2019. The chart below provides a breakdown of resources by type.



## Resource Orders

A large portion of Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center's workload was processing Resource orders for in Zone and out of Area incidents. In 2019 created 3,303 resource orders for incidents within the Pecos Zone.

	ENTER	PLACE	RETRIEVE	FILL	UNFILL	REASSIGN	RELEASE	CANCEL	CANCEL UTF	UTF
AIRCRAFT	110	72	4	60	2	26	85	3	2	0
CREW	36	20	0	37	4	4	41	0	0	2
EQUIPMENT	267	70	6	242	6	60	210	11	0	20
OVERHEAD	1545	254	24	1427	23	305	1361	60	23	152
SUPPLY	1345	324	10	924	4	0	168	48	13	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,303</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>1,865</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>174</b>

## **Training**

### **Sierra Blanca Wildland Fire Academy**

The Pecos Zone will be hosting a wildland fire academy February 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The SBWFA will hold 17 classes in 5 days. Currently, 171 students are registered for the academy with 84 being from within the Pecos Zone.

SBWFA has again, partnered with ENMU Ruidoso Branch which allowed the Academy to expand and host more classes at the college campus. ENMU students are able to gain college credit towards their fire degrees through classes offered at the Academy.

### **Regional Training Courses**

The Pecos Zone continues to strive to bring in training courses outside the Sierra Blanca Wildland Fire Academy to provide local training opportunities. In 2019 the Lincoln National Forest hosted two 300 level regional courses. RX-310 Introduction to Fire Effects and S-390 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior were held at the Lincoln National Forest Supervisors office with a total of 16 Pecos Zone resources completing the training.

### **Southwest Area Priority Trainee Program**

In 2019, the Pecos Zone submitted 15 nomination to be part of the SWA Priority Trainee Program. This program aims to enhance an individual's efforts to obtain quality assignments and work on taskbook completion of predetermined NWCG positions. The 15 individuals who participated in the program went on a collective total of 9 assignments and 2 were able to have their taskbooks completed and finalized.

## Aircraft

### Alamogordo Air Tanker Base

The Alamogordo Air Tanker Base supported local and national operations with 44 loads of retardant, equaling 121,261 gallons on fires this year. The first load of retardant was used May 17<sup>th</sup> on the Patterson fire near Roswell and the last load of retardant was sent out of zone to Arizona on the June 21<sup>st</sup> to the Woodbury Fire.

Alamogordo hosted a shared exclusive use Air Attack platform beginning of April. The platform flew missions on the Lone Mountain, Patterson, Pine Lodge, Blackwater and Meadow Hill incidents within the Pecos Zone as well as multiple reconnaissance flights. The platform left for Oregon mid-July and remained in the northwest for the remainder of the season.

### Roswell Air Tanker Base

Roswell Air Tanker Base initially opened on May 26<sup>th</sup> with the arrival to two SEATs, T-832 and T-898 and a BLM ATGS Platform.

In 2019, 73 loads equaling 71,557 gallons of retardant were delivered from the Roswell Air Tanker Base in support of fires. ROW hosted various types of aircraft including BAE-146, DC-10, RJ-87 and SEATs.

The shared Idaho-New Mexico ATGS platform flew in support of the Pine Lodge and helped with Lincoln National Forest recon missions. The ATGS Platform traveled to Arizona June 28<sup>th</sup> to assist with fires before being released back to Idaho the beginning of July.

## Safety

### SAFECOMS

SAFECOMS are used to report any condition, observation, act, maintenance problem, or circumstance with personnel or the aircraft that has the potential to cause an aviation-related mishap. SAFECOMS are a tool used to identify, document, track, and correct safety related issues.

Four SAFECOMS were filed within the Pecos Zone in 2019:

19-0297 – UAS malfunction during flight (NM-LNF Lone Mountain Fire)

19-0295 – UAS battery malfunction during IR flight (NM-LNF Lone Mountain Fire)

19-0282 – TFR intrusion by fixed wing observed by incident Air Attack (NM-LNF Pine Lodge Fire)

19-0240 – Lack of communication with SEAT during MOC Fire training, incorrect GPS settings. (NM-CAD)

## **SAFENETS**

The SAFENET system is a way for front line firefighters and support staff to report unsafe or unhealthy situations and near-misses. It is also a way for fire managers to hear about and correct hazardous conditions, collect and track important safety data and identify trends that could be developing.

Two SAFENETS were filed within the Pecos Zone in 2019:

20191021-0001 – Lack of communication due to loss of Repeater. (NM-MEA Yellow Well Prescribed Fire)

20190603-0001 – Continued Base Station malfunction during wildfire incident. (NM-LNF Lone Mountain Fire)